

Appendix VIII.
Letters of Support



Shasta County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mark Cibula, District 2

1450 Court Street, Suite 308B
Redding, CA 96001-1680
(530) 225-5557
(800) 479-8009
(530) 225-5189-FAX

July 14, 2005

California Bay-Delta Authority
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (WSRCD) proposal to the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program. This important project will benefit the fish and wildlife, geography, economy, and recreation of Shasta County.

This proposal requests funding to complete the next phase (Phase 3B) of the Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project and, in doing so, addresses a headcut that is threatening previous successful phases of the Project. This Project was initiated in 1998 to address impaired geomorphic, riparian, and salmonid habitat conditions on Clear Creek along the 1.8-mile reach degraded by historic gravel mining.

Previous phases of the project, implemented with CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program and Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) funding, restored 90.8 acres of floodplain. This proposed Phase 3B (Project) will reconstruct the bankfull channel for this next phase of the restoration project contiguous with floodplain surfaces restored in previous phases. It will also stabilize a headcut that is migrating into previous project areas and threatening to undo or damage the investments to date.

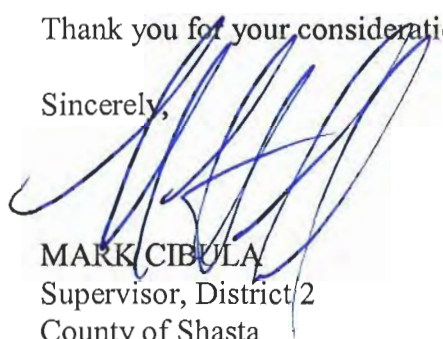
The Project is supported by the Lower Clear Creek Coordinate Resource Management Program, by CALFED through previous funding and objectives to recover Priority Group I Salmonid Species, by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation through previous funding and Section 3406 of the CVPIA, by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) through cost sharing and property ownership, by the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (AFRP), and by agencies involved with project design and restoration (Lower Clear Creek Restoration Team). Completion of this next phase of the Project will not only significantly improve salmonids/aquatic habitat, riparian and avian habitat, and fluvial geomorphic processes in Clear Creek, but it will also protect previous investments.

The timing of this proposal is particularly important as there have been a number of recent successes in increasing the fish and wildlife in the area. The recent acquisition of land by BLM on Clear Creek and the new formation of a Clear Creek Watershed citizens group make for the perfect combination of resources for a tremendously positive impact in an area with great potential for enjoyment by citizens of the entire region.

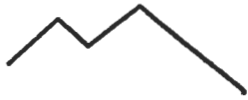
Please feel free to contact me if you need further information.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,



MARK CIBULA
Supervisor, District 2
County of Shasta



Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve

P.O. Box 107 • Igo, CA • 96047

July 13, 2005

California Bay-Delta Authority
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Clear Creek Restoration Project

We enthusiastically support the work of the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (WSRCD) to restore the Lower Clear Creek Watershed. A great deal of successful rehabilitation work has been done in the Clear Creek Watershed since 1998. Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve (HCCP) would very much like to see the next phase of the rehabilitation project completed.

The area of Clear Creek where this work is being done has been the focus of our organization since 1988. It was our vision to reclaim this portion of Clear Creek, which was the site of the second major gold discovery in California in 1849. Gold mining, and later gravel mining, were very destructive to the creek and the fisheries there. Also, in 1988 there was considerable crime in the area.

HCCP's vision to reclaim this creek is being accomplished in a grand way through the WSRCD's efforts with the Floodway Rehabilitation Project. The 90 acres of floodplain restored to date has made a tremendous impact. The next phase of the Project not only reclaims additional acres of the floodplain, it addresses a headcut that is threatening previous successful work. This is a particularly important phase where time delays may have a negative impact.

Each spring and fall HCCP invites members of the public to educational walks in the watershed. Salmon viewing and tours of the restoration project have become popular events, along with fly fishing demonstrations (trout), aquatic insects, banding of songbirds by Point Reyes Bird Observatory, and general birding events. The public visiting our watershed is excited to see the success here in improving the salmonids/aquatic habitat and the riparian and avian habitat. Throughout the year more and more people are enjoying the beauty of Clear Creek along with greater numbers of fish, bird, and wildlife populations.

It is with great pleasure that we endorse and cooperate to support the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District in the Lower Clear Creek Watershed and Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve. We respectfully request that the California Bay-Delta Authority support these efforts with funding to complete the next phase of this successful project.

Cathy Scott, President, Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve



Lower Clear Creek

Watershed / Coordinated Resource Management & Planning Group

Private landowners, stakeholders, concerned citizens, federal, state and local agencies working together to restore the lower Clear Creek watershed

6270 Parallel Road, Anderson, CA 96007 • Phone: (530) 365-7332 Fax: (530) 365-7371

July 12, 2005

California Bay-Delta Authority
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project, Phase 3B

Dear Authority Committee,

Since 1996, landowners, residents and agencies have met together under the auspices of the Clear Creek CRMP Group, thanks to the efforts of the RCD. The active CRMP participants and the 800+ people on the mailing list have been kept informed, asked for input and enjoyed many educational meetings and tours in the Lower Clear Creek watershed.

Following the progress that has been made to date on the Lower Clear Creek Rehabilitation Project, we continue to be impressed by the scale of the work being done, the efforts to include community members and school children in the process, and, of course, the improvement in the numbers of fish returning to Clear Creek already.

On behalf of the Lower Clear Creek Watershed/CRMP Group, I would like to express that the goals of Phase 3 of the Lower Channel project are extremely valuable and fully support efforts to obtain CALFED funding for this work. If there is anything further we can do in this regard, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Leslie Bryan
Clear Creek Watershed Coordinator



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Northern California Area Office
16349 Shasta Dam Boulevard
Shasta Lake, California 96019-8400

IN REPLY REFER TO:

JUL 14 2005

NC-311
ENV-7.00

California Bay-Delta Authority
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project Phase 3B

As the lead Federal agency for the restoration of Clear Creek under the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, the Bureau of Reclamation strongly supports and encourages the California Bay-Delta Authority to fund Phase 3B of the Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project (Project). Furthermore, Reclamation endorses the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (WSRCD) as implementer of Phase 3B.

The Project is designed to improve anadromous fish habitat by rehabilitating 2 miles of the Clear Creek floodplain and channel that was degraded by in-stream gold and aggregate mining. Since 1998, Reclamation has provided cost-share funding for design and implementation of Phases 1, 2A, 2B, and 3A. Reclamation is fully committed to completing the Project and has funded a consulting firm to design and prepare a construction-ready bid package for Phase 3B.

Since 1998, Reclamation has worked closely with the WSRCD on design and implementation of the Project. As the implementer of the Project, the WSRCD has shown an unparalleled degree of expertise in coordinating design, permitting, and construction of the Project. The WSRCD has the proven ability to work closely with contractors during construction of all previous Project phases. The WSRCD has implemented all previous phases on time, under budget, and to design specifications.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact me at 530-276-2046.

Sincerely,


James De Staso III
Fishery Biologist

Memorandum

To: Mr. Tim Ramirez
California Bay Delta Authority
Ecosystem Restoration Program
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Date: July 14, 2005

From: **DONALD B. KOCH, Regional Manager**
Northern California-North Coast Region
Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001



Subject: Directed Action Funding Submission for Phase 3B, Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project

For several years the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has been a technical advisor to the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (RCD) in the arena of watershed restoration for the benefit of threatened and endangered anadromous fish and other natural resources. The focus of RCD's work has been primarily in the lower Clear Creek watershed. Efforts have been underway to restore the most degraded 1.8 mile section of creek, utilizing the principles of ecosystem management.

Restoration of Clear Creek is identified in the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) and the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Ecosystem Restoration Program, Draft Stage 1 Implementation Plan. The partnership between the RCD and multiple local, State, and Federal agency technical advisors (which includes DFG) to restore Clear Creek has received wide support, as evidenced by several State and Federal grants. To date roughly two-thirds of the planned restoration work has been completed; Phase 3B of the Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project (Project) is one of the final steps in completing the original restoration plan.

The proposal requests funding to implement Phase 3B and, in doing so, addresses a head-cut that is threatening previous successful phases of the Project. A solution to the head-cutting problem is necessary to protect existing restoration sites on Clear Creek, to provide the opportunity for future restoration, and to avoid a stranded investment of between \$13 million and \$14 million in the lower Clear Creek drainage. If left untreated, the head-cut problem at the unstable reach poses several threats to the lower Clear Creek restoration project which include:

1. the loss of existing spawning and rearing habitat that was recreated at the restoration site;
2. the loss of the most suitable location for diverting the channel in future phases of the project. From a geomorphic perspective, the head-cut will create difficult design challenges for future channel alignment. If the redirection has to be relocated further upstream, it will cut through a revegetated area which has already been restored; and

Mr. Tim Ramirez
California Bay Delta Authority
Ecosystem Restoration Program
July 14, 2005
Page Two

3. a potential for lowering the depth to the water table which would negatively affect existing riparian restoration and make future riparian revegetation more difficult.

Completion of this next phase of the Project will improve salmonid/aquatic habitat, riparian and avian habitat, and fluvial geomorphic processes in Clear Creek. It will also protect previous investments and provide CALFED with valuable project implementation information, project-related experimental results, and a model demonstration stream available for immediate and continued adaptive management opportunities. On a similar note, DFG supports necessary monitoring on the project to lend worthwhile data and improve to lend CALFED ERP knowledge on projects of this nature.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with the RCD as a technical advisor to help ecosystem restoration, environmental education, and watershed stewardship within our areas of influence.

cc: Messrs. Ken Moore, Neil Manji
Steve Turek, Randal C. Benthin
and Mike Berry
Ms. Patricia Bratcher
Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

Ms. Diana Jacobs
Department of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814